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Approved For Release 2005/01/26 : CIA-RDP80M01133A000800070004-0

THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20505

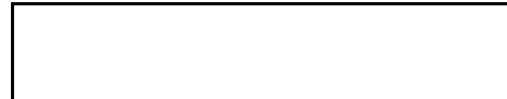
IC 75-2478

27 AUG 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chairman, NSCIC Working Group

SUBJECT: Arab-Israeli Military Balance

I am enclosing a copy of recent correspondence between General Thompson and George Carver regarding Ambassador Ellsworth's desire for a long-term projection of trends in the Arab-Israeli military balance. As indicated in the package on the NSCIC Working Group sent to you last week, there is an item on the draft agenda dealing with the Arab-Israeli military balance. It has been proposed primarily because of Ambassador Ellsworth's repeated expressions of interest in the subject. I expect that his and other Working Group members' comments at the meeting will help to sharpen the focus of the terms of reference prepared in DIA/DE.



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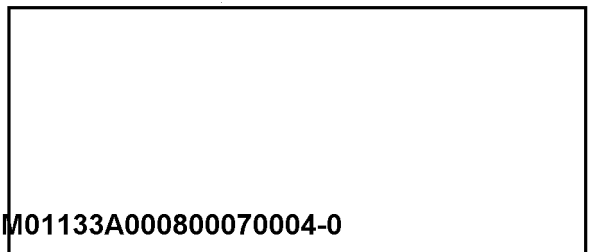
Major General, USAF (Ret.)
Acting Deputy to the DCI for
the Intelligence Community

Attachment
As stated

cc: George A. Carver
NIO/ME

DIA review(s) completed.

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DCI/IC/PR [redacted] (26 AUG 75)

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THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20505

National Intelligence Officers

19 August 1975

Brigadier General James M. Thompson, USA
Deputy Director for Estimates
Defense Intelligence Agency
Washington, D.C. 20301

Dear Jim:

With regard to your letter of 30 July, the concerns you expressed on behalf of Ambassador Ellsworth and the Joint Staff are ones we share and certainly consider warranted. We have, therefore, given careful attention to the suggested project outlined in your letter's enclosure and the National Intelligence Officer for the Middle East is incorporating your specific questions into his already initiated work program on the Middle East military balance over the next decade.

As you doubtless realize, there has been insufficient research and analysis of the present balance of power and this will slow our effort to develop sound conclusions about the balance of power in the 1980s. The NIO for the Middle East believes that work already underway should soon yield some properly researched and carefully analyzed conclusions concerning the near-term balance and we should be able to develop some community studies on the long-term balance within a few months.

Our immediate efforts are devoted to the definition of the problem and developing a work program that will allow an orderly progression of analytical tasks to involve the elements of the Intelligence Community best qualified to work on the various parts of the problem. The tentative plan is for the NIO to chair an interagency committee that will organize into interagency working groups. These working groups should develop sufficient material for one or two interagency memoranda by mid- to late fall. We then envision drafting a National Intelligence Estimate based on the results of the interagency study.

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The NIO for the Middle East, [redacted] will be in contact with you and the Defense Intelligence Officer to work out the details of the project. It would be helpful if you would consider what DIA can do in funding some outside analytical effort and the related work programs you plan within your DE and DI elements.

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Sincerely yours,

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[redacted]
George A. Carver, Jr.

Deputy for National Intelligence Officers

cc: [redacted]

O/D/DCI/NIO: [redacted] /GACarver/mee

Distribution

Orig - Addressee

1 - Mr. [redacted]

1 - D/DCI/IC ✓

1 - NIO/ME

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Approved For Release 2005/01/28 : CIA-RDP80M0133A000800070004-0
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301

ACTION

original

S-7,131/DE-4

80 JUL 1975

Mr. George A. Carver, Jr.
Deputy to the DCI for National
Intelligence Officers
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D.C. 20505

Dear George:

(S) At the NSCIC Working Group meeting of 2 July, Ambassador Ellsworth, Assistant Secretary of Defense for International Security Affairs, voiced strong concern over the trend toward a changing military balance between the Arabs and Israelis. He has requested an intelligence community paper addressing this trend projecting well into the future.

(C) As a result of Ambassador Ellsworth's desire, and the expressed interest of the Joint Staff, we are hereby requesting a national product on the subject. We have prepared the attached Terms of Reference for such a paper and have coordinated it within the Department of Defense.

(S) Ambassador Ellsworth noted in his comments on item 3b that the term "economic power" should include the capability of a state to project economic and financial power outward to other states and that the term "military strength" should include the total military capacity that a state can sustain without seriously jeopardizing essential domestic programs and internal order.

Sincerely,

JAMES M. THOMPSON
Brigadier General, USA
Deputy Director for Estimates

1 Enclosure
Terms of Reference,
2pgs, 1cy, (S)

Classified by... DE-4
SUBJECT TO GENERAL DECLASSIFICATION
SCHEDULE... 1982
AUTOMATICALLY DECLASSIFIED AT TWO
YEAR INTERVALS

Approved For Release 2005/01/26 : CIA-RDP80M0133A000800070004-0 DECEMBER 1983

The Arab-Israeli Balance of Power
in the Mid-1980s

1. Purpose and scope.

a. This estimate is intended to project the balance of power between Israel and the Arab States into the mid-1980's, to determine where probable superiority will lie by 1981 and 1986, assuming no major Arab-Israeli hostilities in the interim.

b. The Arab-Israeli balance of power by the end of the ten-year period will depend as much on politico-economic developments as on the continued arms build-up on each side.

2. Potential armaments growth, including imports, indigenous production, and attrition.

a. Detail will be included in annexed tables and charts.

b. This portion of the estimate will limit itself to assessing the highest and lowest parameters, including nuclear and other unconventional capabilities, postponing decision on the most probable case.

3. Projected domestic and international political, economic, and social factors which may impact on the balance of power.

a. Manpower considerations, particularly the development of military and industrial expertise with the growth of trained pools of technically qualified individuals.

b. The relative importance of economic power and military strength in individual states and regionally.

c. Internal stability and possible ideological or nationalistic divisions as well as the political effects of religious disparities among the Arab states.

d. The developing relationships between major external powers and the Middle East nations.

4. Most probable relative military strengths for 1981 and 1986.

a. This portion of the estimate will use the considerations developed in part 3 to refine the high and low figures of part 2, to arrive at a reasonable mean.

b. Substantiating detail should probably be carried in an annex.

5. Conclusions on relative national power in 1981 and 1986.

a. Assess the Arab-Israeli balance of power with particular attention to relative strengths and weaknesses.

b. Evaluate the causes of any shifts in the balance of power.

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OFFICIAL ROUTING SLIP

TO	NAME AND ADDRESS	DATE	INITIALS
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5			
6			

ACTION	DIRECT REPLY	PREPARE REPLY
APPROVAL	DISPATCH	RECOMMENDATION
COMMENT	FILE	RETURN
CONCURRENCE	INFORMATION	SIGNATURE

Remarks:

Memo to General Scowcroft as Chairman, NSCIC Working Group, informing him of correspondence on Arab-Israeli problem--a subject being pushed by Ambassador Ellsworth. [] [] has been informed and agrees it is a good idea to let General Scowcroft know of correspondence.

FOLD HERE TO RETURN TO SENDER

FROM: NAME, ADDRESS AND PHONE NO.	DATE
Approved For Release 2005/01/26 : CIA-RDP80M01337A000800070004-0	8/26/75
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